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York Centre for Asian Research

Happy Asian Heritage Month!

YCAR Update for 01 May 2024

YCAR News

ABMP and YCAR launch the China Insights Fund: Building knowledge and understanding of China

YCAR is pleased to announce the relaunch of the [China Insights Fund \(CIF\)](#), made possible by the incredible support of the [Asian Business and Management Program \(ABMP\)](#).

Originally established to foster research specifically on Canada-China interactions, the CIF now takes on a significantly broadened scope.



Elena Capriotti (ABMP) and Joan Judge (History) at the CIF launch. YCAR photograph

This renewal reflects the dynamic evolution of China Studies and the importance of understanding China across historical periods, within its social complexities, and as a key player on the global stage.

"In a world where perspectives are constantly shifting, gaining in-depth, multifaceted knowledge of China is crucial," states Professor [Bernie Frolic](#), ABMP Executive Director. "With this relaunch, the CIF supports research that digs deeper, embraces inclusivity, and helps us forge stronger connections across borders."

The heart of the CIF's renewal lies in its expanded funding opportunities. York faculty, graduate students as well as YCAR Associates can apply for support in several key areas: organizing workshops, symposia, and conferences that bring together leading voices in China-related research to York; pursuing innovative research projects that align with CIF's mandate; facilitating international collaborations between York scholars and those at educational institutions in China; and providing field research opportunities that offer vital on-the-ground experiences for graduate students.

"This fund is an opportunity to establish YCAR as a hub for forward-thinking research into modern China and its rich historical, cultural and geopolitical significance," says Professor [Qiang Zha](#), YCAR Interim Director. "As such, YCAR and CIF are keen to cultivate emerging scholars and promote research that delves into the experiences of Chinese communities in Canada to build Canada's China competency in the new context." By supporting diverse projects, the CIF will generate insights that shape research conversations, contribute to informed policymaking, foster intercultural understanding, and strengthen vital international relationships.

YCAR encourages the York community and its Associates to explore the potential offered by the relaunched CIF. With significant funding available (a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$20,000 per application, depending on the type of application), the CIF provides scholars with an opportunity to make a difference in the field of China Studies.

The CIF Committee has identified specific priority themes for 2024, reflecting its commitment to reimagining China studies and fostering research on the Chinese diaspora in Canada. These themes include training future China Studies scholars, networking Canadian scholars in this field, and exploring the experiences of Chinese students in academic settings.

Review the full application guidelines and submit your proposals by the Monday, 27 May 2024 deadline. Successful applicants will be notified by 14 June 2024. For additional information, please visit the [CIF website](#) or contact ycar@yorku.ca

Amy Choi is our 2023 Dr. Sangdeok Woo & Mrs. Kwisoon Lim Woo Memorial Graduate Award recipients

Congratulations to [Amy Choi](#), the 2023 recipient of the Dr. Sangdeok Woo & Mrs. Kwisoon Lim Woo Memorial Graduate Award. A doctoral student in Sociology, Amy's research interests include internalized racism, critical consciousness, public policy, anti-Asian racism, and the model minority stereotype.



Photograph provided by
A. Choi

For her MA thesis, Amy examined the lack of critical consciousness of anti-Asian racism among East Asian international students at the University of Toronto. For her PhD, she is interested in furthering her understanding of internalized racism among East Asian Canadians, especially among Korean-Canadians. Her goal is to generate recommendations and policies that combat Asian racism.

The Award was created to support graduate students undertaking research on the topics of Korean history, culture or society. Dr. Woo, one of Korea's most distinguished scholars in Legal Medicine, laid a foundation for the development of National Institute of Scientific Investigation in that country. He was also a dedicated attending professor for 30 years at his alma mater, Yonsei University in Seoul.

YCAR offers awards for research, fieldwork and language training. The next deadline is 03 February 2025. [More information on eligibility or to apply is available at this link.](#)

Welcome to YCAR's new associates

A warm welcome to YCAR family for our new associates:

- Elena Lam, School of Health Policy and Management
- [Diane Kolin](#), Music
- [Yifan Wu](#), Linguistics
- [Matthew Gil Day-Lopes](#), Political Science

Associates' News and Publications (alphabetically)

- Faculty Associate [Preetmohinder Aulakh](#) (Schulich School of Business) is recipient of a 2023 SSHRC Insight Development Grant for his project on Sustainable Agriculture in the Global South: Prospects and Challenges of Smallholders' Product Diversification and Marketing Channel Coordination.
- Faculty Associate [Claudia Chauhan](#) (Health Policy & Global Health) was interviewed about her novel sociological experiment on vaccine ideology on post-secondary campuses. [Listen to the interview at this link.](#)
- Faculty Associate [Nadia Hasan](#) (Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies) was quoted in a [CBC article](#) on how the conflict in the Middle East could be already be affecting the next federal election.
- Faculty Associate [Philip F. Kelly](#) (EUC) and Graduate Associate [Ria Jhoanna Ducusin](#) (Geography) | "[Social reproduction, migration and labour control regimes: Understanding Filipino crew experiences in the UK fishing fleet.](#)" *Work in the Global Economy*. This research was funded by the SSHRC via the Work at Sea project, which is hosted by YCAR.
- Faculty Associate [Thomas Klassen](#) (School of Public Policy and Administration) | "[Does a university undergraduate degree lead to a 'good job'? It depends what you mean](#)" | *The Conversation*
- Faculty Associate [Muyang Li](#) (Sociology) | "[A Cross-platform comparison of China's confrontational diplomatic communication](#)" | *The Journal of International Communication*
- Faculty Associate [Zhixiang Liang](#) (School of Administrative Studies) is a recipient of a 2023 SSHRC Insight Development Grant for his project on the Impact of Institutional Systems on Foreign Direct Investment: A Multilevel Study of Chinese Multinational Enterprises.
- Research Associate [B. Lynne Milgram](#) (OCAD University) | "(Re)crafting distribution networks for contemporary Philippine textiles: women's advocacy and social enterprise" | *Threads of Globalization: Fashion, Textiles, and Gender in Asia in the Long Twentieth Century*, edited by Melia Belli Bose (University of Manchester Press 2024)
- Faculty Associate [Glen Norcliffe](#) (EUC) is recipient of a 2023 SSHRC Insight Development Grant for his project on [Velomobility for Disability](#), which considers the design, production and distribution of cycles that assist the mobility of persons with a disability. The research team includes team members in Austria and Indonesia. The grant is hosted at YCAR. [The announcement was made in March 2024 and you can read more at this link.](#)
- Faculty Associate [Shyam Raganathan](#) (Philosophy) | *Yoga – Anticolonial Philosophy: An Action-Focused Guide to Practice* (University of British Columbia Press 2024).
- Faculty Associate [Peter Vandergeest](#) (EUC) and Melissa Marschke (University of Ottawa) | "[Key Indicators and Standards for Work in Industrial Fishing](#)" | Policy brief drawing on research from the Work at Sea project, hosted by YCAR and funded by SSHRC.
- Faculty Associate and Interim YCAR Director [Qiang Zha's](#) (Education) research drawing on a recent survey of Chinese professor was featured in a [rabble.ca opinion piece](#) on whether CSIS is embroiling Canadian universities in US Cold War with China. It noted that among researchers familiar with the CSIS guidelines for research, 40 per cent felt "considerable fear and/or anxiety that they were being surveilled by the Canadian government." Further is forthcoming in Canadian Ethnic Studies.
- Faculty Associate and Interim YCAR Director [Qiang Zha](#) (Education) was quoted on the role of cultural events like the Lunar New Year in helping to fight anti-Asian racism for [an article in Humber News](#).

Recent YCAR/Co-presented Events

YCAR co-presented the very successful **York University Chinese Culture Day**, organized by the Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics on 14 February 2024. [Read more about the event at this link.](#)



Photograph provided by Jessica Tsui-Yan Li

The New Global Universities: Reinventing Education in the 21st Century featured **Noah Pickus**, Associate Provost, Duke University. His virtual talk chronicled the origins, launch, and impact of eight innovative colleges and universities in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and North America, describing the combination of intellectual courage, entrepreneurial audacity, and adaptive leadership needed to invent educational institutions today. The event was co-presented by the Provost's Office, YCAR, Faculty of Education and York International.



[Watch the video of this event at this link.](#)

YCAR was pleased to co-host two talks by **P. Sainath** during his visit to York University in March 2024. He delivered a seminar about climate, farm distress, inequality and justice in rural India and discussed his latest book on the foot soldiers of Indian freedom.

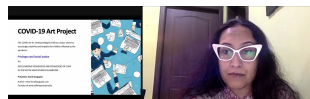
[Learn more about P. Sainath and his visit at this link.](#)



Photograph provided by P.F. Kelly

Watch his talk on his book, *The Last Heroes: Foot Soldiers of Indian Freedom* (2022), [at this link.](#)

Koral Dasgupta, author and founder of www.tellmeyourstory.biz, virtually workshopped on privilege and social justice and the The COVID Art for Underprivileged Children project as part of the [Decolonizing Pedagogies and Pedagogies of Care in the South Asian Studies classroom series.](#)



YCAR screenshot

The Knowledge Production in East Asia series wrapped up for the year with a talk by **Christine Y. L. Luk** (Tsinghua University). The title of her talk was: Arthur de Carle Sowerby in Republican-era Shanghai: Bridging the global and the local via evolutionism, 1922– 1954



Photograph provided by J. Judge

York and Community Events of Interest

May 3 | Evolution of diverse Asian cuisines in Toronto with Leo J.K. Chan and Gordon Lam, part of 2024 Asian Heritage Month | **In person**

[More Info](#)

May 5 | Asian Canadian Memories: From Estrangement to Inclusion | Asian Heritage Month Film Festival | **In**

[Registration Link](#)

person

May 11 | Asian Heritage Month Opening Ceremony | In person

Registration Link

May 15 | Grant information session for SSHRC Insight Grant, Fall 2024 submission deadline | Virtual

Registration Link

May 16–31 | Asian Heritage Month programming at Hot Docs

More Info

May 22 | Grant information session for SSHRC Partnership Development Grant, Fall 2024 submission deadline | Virtual

Registration Link

YCAR Opportunities

China Insights Fund | Deadline: May 27



China Insights Fund

The CIF focuses on, stimulates, supports research activities on and fosters engagement between China and the world. In the context of this funding opportunity, the term "China" is inclusive of all Chinese-speaking economies.

The CIF supports short term projects and initiatives with a keen interest in themes related to:

- Imperial, modern and contemporary China
- China and its relationships with the global community, including Canada
- China and the Indo-Pacific area as a region
- Chinese Diaspora in Canada

In 2024, priority will be placed on initiatives focusing on reimagining China studies and the studies related to Chinese diaspora in Canada.

Funding for:

- Workshop, Symposium or Conference
- International Research/Teaching Collaboration
- Research Project
- Graduate Student Field Research

Application Deadline:

- May 27, 2024

For more information, or to apply:

<https://www.yorku.ca/research/ycar/china-insights-fund/>

The China Insights Fund (CIF) at the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) is made possible through the generous support of the Asian Business and Management Program (ABMP).

Asian Business and Management Program | York Centre for Asian Research

The China Insights Fund (CIF) at the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) is made possible through the generous support of the Asian Business and Management Program (ABMP). Established in 2019 and launched as the Canada-China Initiatives Fund, the CIF has been envisioned to refocus on, stimulate and support research activity as well as foster engagement between China and the world. In the context of this funding opportunity, the term "China" is inclusive of all Chinese-speaking economies.

This fund supports short-term projects and initiatives with a keen interest in themes related to:

- Imperial, modern and contemporary China
- China and its relationships with the global community, including Canada
- China and the Indo-Pacific area as a region
- Chinese Diaspora in Canada

**In 2024, priority will be placed on initiatives focusing on reimagining China studies and the studies related to Chinese diaspora in Canada, including, but not limited to, training future China studies scholars, networking Canadian scholars in this field, and the experiences of Chinese students in academic settings.

The eligible activities include:

| Activities | Who is Eligible |
|---|--|
| Workshop, Symposium, or Conference | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York University faculty members • Full-time, domestic or international graduate students enrolled at York University • YCAR Associates |
| Research Projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York University faculty members • YCAR Associates |
| International Research/ Teaching Collaborations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • York University faculty members • Full-time, domestic or international graduate students enrolled at York University • YCAR Associates |
| Graduate Student Field Research | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-time, domestic or international graduate students enrolled at York University |

The CIF-YCAR Committee is responsible for the Fund and adjudicates applications. Annually, up to two applications will be funded for a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$20,000 per application, depending on the type of application and the project budget.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a comprehensive report at the end of the

one-year funding period as well as present their findings and experiences, offering a platform for knowledge dissemination and fostering a community of collaborative scholarship.

The CIF is offered annually and we are now accepting applications for the Monday, 27 May 2024 deadline. All applicants will be informed of the adjudication results by 14 June 2024.

Let's build bridges of knowledge and collaboration together.

[More information, including application form links, at this link.](#)

YCAR Research Collaboration Fellowship | Deadline: June 3

The YCAR Research Collaboration Fellowship is aimed to promote intensive collaboration between a Faculty Associate of the Centre and a research collaborator at another research institution (university, NGO, etc.). The fellowship provides support for a collaborator, usually from Asia, to visit Toronto for the specific purpose of jointly working on a research proposal, project or publication.

The fellowship provides up to a maximum of C\$15,000 in reimbursement for travel and accommodation expenses incurred by the research collaborator. Visiting researcher will usually spend one to three months in Toronto. YCAR provides the visitor with a desk and library access for the Fellowship's duration. Preference may be given to applicants with existing collaborations at the time of application.

Applications for a proposed visitor in the 2024–25 academic year are accepted until Monday, 03 June 2024 at 16:00 EDT and should be submitted by the YCAR Faculty Associate making the nomination, not the proposed visitor.

A complete application consists of:

- 1) Current CV of both the Applicant and Research Collaborator
- 2) A two-page document (word or PDF) that includes the following:
 - statement outlining the proposed collaborative work
 - details of the planned output that will result from the Fellowship
 - timeline of the proposed visit and output

This opportunity will be adjudicated by YCAR's Awards Committee.

[The application form is available at this link.](#)

[More information at this link.](#)

Opportunity | Study Filipino or Indonesian at the University of Victoria | Apply before August 9

Synchronous Online Classes are being offered for both languages in the Fall 2024 and Winter 2025 terms.

StudyFilipino@ UVIC

Fall 2024: Introduction to Filipino I (PAAS 125)

(PAAS125)

Spring 2025: Introduction to Filipino II

(PAAS126)

The classes will meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 15:00 to 15:50 PST. [Click this link to access the course poster.](#)



Study Filipino @ UVIC
Synchronous Online Classes

Fall 2024: Introduction to Filipino I (PAAS 125)
Spring 2025: Introduction to Filipino II (PAAS 126)

Enrolling to study?

1. Ask your university to send a Letter of Permission to UVic. [Admission \(info.html\)](#)
2. Apply for Visiting Student Status at UVic. [Click this link to apply!](#)
3. Enroll in PAAS 125 (Intro to Filipino I) and PAAS 126 (Intro to Filipino II)
4. Attend Live Online Classes and Learn to Speak, Read & Write in Filipino

Deadline to apply for Visiting Student Status: April 30
Not an official holiday? No worries, we've got you covered! You have till August 9 to submit your application (date for \$40 applies).

Classes meet MTW 3-3:50pm PST [Click link](#) for semester dates
Tuition: \$600 (semester) (semester I) visiting student fee (\$60)
Still not convinced? Besides excellent learning experience students enrolled in the class can apply for a bursary of up to \$300 to offset their tuition!
For assistance and questions contact Maria at language@uvic.ca

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Study Indonesian @ UVIC

Fall 2024: Introduction to Indonesian I

(PAAS 120) ; Intermediate Indonesian

(PAAS 220)

Spring 2025: Introduction to Indonesian II

(PAAS 121)

Intermediate Indonesian II (PAAS 221)

Classes meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 17:00 to 17:50 PST (PAAS 120 and 121) and 15:30 to 16:30 PST (PAAS 220 and 221).

[Click this link to access the course poster.](#)



Study Indonesian @ UVIC
Synchronous Online Classes

Fall 2024: Introduction to Indonesian I (PAAS 120)
Spring 2025: Introduction to Indonesian II (PAAS 121)

Enrolling to study?

1. Ask your university to send a Letter of Permission to UVic. [Admission \(info.html\)](#)
2. Apply for Visiting Student Status at UVic. [Click this link to apply!](#)
3. Enroll in PAAS 120 (Intro to Indonesian I) and PAAS 121 (Intro to Indonesian II)
4. Attend Live Online Classes and Learn to Speak, Read & Write in Indonesian
5. Continue your journey and enroll in PAAS 220 (Intermediate Indonesian I) and PAAS 221 (Intermediate Indonesian II)

Deadline to apply for Visiting Student Status: April 30
Not an official holiday? No worries, we've got you covered! You have till August 9 to submit your application (date for \$40 applies).

Classes meet MTW 3-3:50pm PAAS 120 and 121) and 3:30-4:30pm PST (PAAS 220 and 221) [Click link](#) for semester dates
Tuition: \$600 (semester) (semester I) visiting student fee (\$60)
Still not convinced? Besides excellent learning experience students enrolled in the class can apply for a bursary of up to \$300 to offset their tuition!
For assistance and questions contact Maria at language@uvic.ca

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION

You can enroll until 09 August 2024. [Click here for semester dates.](#) Besides excellent learning experience students enrolled in the class can apply for a bursary of up to \$300 to offset their tuition. The CSEASI-ICESEA language programs are run with generous support from The Henry Luce Foundation. [Information about fees and enrollment can be found at this link.](#)

Full details can also be accessed at [this link.](#)

Other Opportunities

York's Global Research Excellence (GRE) Seed Fund supports investigator-led collaborations that have targeted outcomes while also affording York research teams the ability to take risks and the versatility to work with leading universities, industry, government agencies, IGOs and NGOs from across the world.

STREAM A: Strategic partnership exploration and development (up to C\$30,000);

STREAM B: Towards 20230: Advancing Multilateralism (Up to C\$15,000)

Deadline: Rolling

[More information at this link.](#)

The **Mitacs Globalink Research Internship (GRI)** for summer 2025. GRI pairs faculty in Canada with international undergrads for 12-week research projects from May to October 2025.

Deadline for faculty submissions: 04 June 2024 at 13:00 PT

[More information at this link.](#)

[Submit your project at this link.](#)

The **Southeast Asia Digital Library Undergraduate Paper Award** seeks papers from undergraduates concerning original research in Southeast Asian Studies. The first-place winner will receive their choice of two books from the Cornell University Press catalog. Both first- and second-place winning papers will be published on the [Southeast Asia Digital Library](#).

Deadline: 07 June 2024

[More information at this link.](#)

Research GPS (Grant Proposal Support) program, Research Commons, York University

Deadline: 06 May 2024

[More information at this link.](#)

Call

Call for submission | Workshop on AI Governance in Global Dynamics |

Deadline: June 15

The AI Governance in Global Dynamics at the Crossroads of Geopolitics and Technopolitics workshop is scheduled for 12–13 September 2024 at York University, organized by Wenhong Chen (University of Texas Austin) and Muyang Li (York University).

Artificial Intelligence (AI) holds transformative potential but also raises concerns about surveillance, data ethics, social inclusion, digital colonialism, and national security. Globally, there is unanimous agreement on the necessity of AI governance, yet there are significant differences in approaches to regulating AI. While the U.S., the E.U., and China are establishing regulatory frameworks, Oceania, South America, and Africa are also crafting their distinctive AI governance policies. Divergent AI regulatory strategies reflect differing perceptions and imaginaries of AI's social impacts and distinct technopolitical and geopolitical considerations. These regulatory approaches, influenced by the shifting dynamics of geopolitics and technopolitics, will play a critical role in shaping the global trajectory of AI. Hence, exploring the development of this global regulatory network and the interplay between the core and emerging regions presents a rich and timely research area.

This workshop aims to foster a holistic and comparative understanding of AI governance, emphasizing the role of geopolitical and technopolitical dynamics in shaping regulatory landscapes. We invite scholars from different backgrounds, including but not limited to sociology, communication and media studies, international relations, and area studies, to submit 500-word abstracts of their work and participate in a two-day workshop around these issues. Topics may include but are not limited to:

- What are the perceived risks and opportunities of AI that drive regulations in various nation states and/or regions? What values do they aim to promote through the regulatory approach?
- How do nation state governments balance the potential benefits and risks of AI in their regulation?
- How do geopolitical considerations shape the policies and regulatory approach toward AI?
- How are regulatory frameworks being diffused, adapted, or redefined across countries and regions?
- What role do power dynamics between nation-states and major global tech corporations play in AI governance?
- What unique roles can Canada and other Asian Pacific countries play in the future of AI, considering their current policy and AI ecosystem?

Timeline

- 15 June 2024 | 500-word Abstract due
- 15 July 2024 | Notification of Accepted Abstracts
- 12–13 Sept. 2024 | Workshop at York University

After the workshop, selected participants will be further invited to submit their complete manuscripts to a journal special issue. A small stipend may be offered to cover part of the travel and accommodation expenses of selected participants. This workshop is presented with support from the University of Texas at Austin and York Centre for Asian Research.

Please submit your 500 word abstract to [Wenhong Chen](#) and [Muyang Li](#) by 15 June 2024. [The call is also available at this link.](#)



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